



[Clyde Hill](#) of [Magnetized Management](#) and [Productions](#), and [Michael Stover](#) of [MTS Management](#) are pleased to present the next drummer in the series of 10 drummers drumming and that is Drummer Rob Wade of Touch The Sun.



- 1) Hello Rob Wade and I would like to start this interview by having you introduce yourself to the reading audience so that you can tell them a little bit about yourself? Please be very descriptive with your answers.

Rob's Response;

Hey how ya doing? My name is Rob Wade and I am currently the

drummer in a band called Touch The Sun! I've been a drummer for most of my life. I've studied music in school in a controlled learning environment (Capitano university). And on the road where you learn everything else lol.

I've mainly played rock/metal music throughout my career. Growing up however I was jamming to everything and playing with whoever was putting groups together. Local jams at pubs in Powell River (hometown) and good old basements and dirty garages. That with constant practicing to albums and cassettes blaring through a pa system right beside my kit kind a make up the musician I am today!!

2) I will ask you the same questions that I asked Drummer [Chris Challice](#) of [Killinger Gravity Mob Heroes](#) that was featured during [Magnetized Managements's](#) 13 Days of Christmas about [Randy Black's](#) was selection featured on the date of 10 Drummers drumming could you think of 9 other drummers besides yourself that best depicts 10 Drummers Drumming?



Link here to [Chris Challice's](#) Interview:

<http://caninepublicity.yolasite.com/resources/PDFs/Chris%20Challice%202018-01-05.pdf>



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Rob's Response:

Sure can: this list will be current drummers I'm listening to and some old faves that have influenced me in some form.....there are more but this is what comes to mind !

Arien van Weesenbeek - Epica
Rod Morgenstein - Winger/ Dixie Dregs
Terry Bozzio - Frank Zappa
Jeff Porcaro - toto
Martin Axenrot - opeth
Mike Portnoy - Sons of Apollo
Mike managing - Dream theatre
Neil Peart - Rush
Jerry Mercer - April Wine
Randy Black – Anihilator

My Response:

I am a huge Rush Fan, right from the very beginning most drummers automatically think of Neil Peart for his style but early rush was influenced a lot by [Jon Bonhom](#) so

- 1) John Bonham - Led Zeppelin
- 2) John Rutsey – Rush
- 3) Randy Black - Career
- 4) Tommy Aldridge – Ozzy Plus

None of my other favorite drummers have been mentioned yet so I will keep the audience in suspense.

- 2) I have done a little bit of research upon you as a guest and I am sure that the reading audience would be interesting in knowing what previous bands that you have played drums for?

Rob's Response:

Jar which later became Flybanger (Columbia records) kept me busy for many years. Flybanger eventually folded and there was various formations of the group in the years that followed. I played for a number of projects after that in Vancouver: Kill Rhythm, Nikki Hurst, The Thick Of It to name a few. Studio and live alike. Jar came back in another new form in 2010 and re-recorded all its best songs on a ten song album released in late 2012. I started Touch The Sun along with Alex Roque shortly after 2013 and here we are!!

Jar Video: Suckerpunch

https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=14&v=HyREzRO2Mcl

Link of Wikipedia to Flybanger

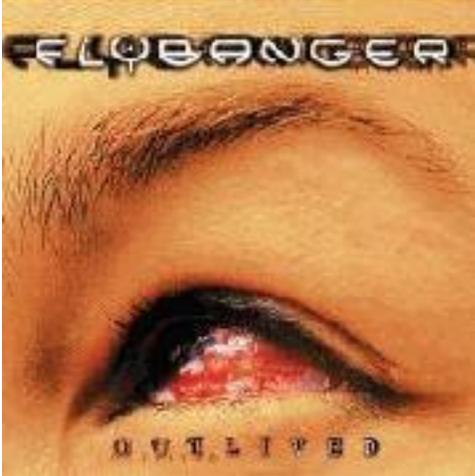
<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Flybanger>

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BIRMINGHAM, Town Hall, Friday, 13th June, at 7.30 p.m.
MANCHESTER, Free Trade Hall, Sunday, 15th June, at 7 p.m.
NEWCASTLE, City Hall, Friday, 20th June, at 7.30 p.m.
BRISTOL, Colston Hall, Saturday, 21st June, at 7.30 p.m.
(BLODWYN PIG NOT APPEARING)
PORTSMOUTH, Guildhall, Thursday, 26th June, at 7.30 p.m.



4) This question that I would like to ask you is in regards to your equipment could you tell the reading audience about the drum set that you play, sticks that you use, drum heads, hardware and other pertinent information that is relative for your craft? Would need a picture of your drum kit ;) and any links to particular companies that endorse you...

Rob's Response.

I play Pearl Drums with Pearl Hardware. Sabian cymbals. Remo and Evans heads and Pro Mark sticks. I have a full maple custom with 2 kicks (pictured here) and duplicate in birch. Both sound amazing and are tough as hell having survived many shows.

www.sabian.ca

www.promark.com



5) This is a two part question.

a) From the aspect of being a drummer how important is it to work with the technicians (Sound, Lighting, Stage and Monitors) that you have worked with in regards to not only your and do feel free to mention names in regards to their work that they have done for you while the bands you have been with have been on tour?

Rob's Response

Very! lol. They are part of the show in making you look the best and sound the best. We always got along with house technicians and our crew guys that travelled with us. Ya treat em like part of the band, part of the family and you see that back in the quality of the work. Or you part ways which we've done before in the middle of tours. And or grin and bear getting through a show with a crabby house tech lol. Its all part of it!!



Touch The Sun

Honourable mentions to some lads we've worked with in the past on the road/studio and here in Vancouver:

*Ken Turta
Kevin Chief Zaruk
Fabrizio Del Monte
Dan Simpson
Hoogie*

b) Stage sound seems to be very important for musicians to be able to hear themselves it is known in the trade of many to have a good mix on stage so that everyone is comfortable, (if you are a singing drummer please mention) so what do you really need to hear in your monitor when doing stage monitor check?

Rob's Response:

My requirements are pretty basic. I like kick/guitar/ and vocals in my monitors. Everything else i can get off the stage and whatever the other guys have in theirs. If i'm running in ears i like a bit more of everything due to the isolation. But i'm mostly stuffing plugs in my ears and cranking the monitors lol



Figure 1 Yamaha Monitor Board



CAPILANO UNIVERSITY

6) One of the things involved in being a musician is being taught how to play that instrument, what background do you have from the aspect of how you were taught and if you teach please let the reading audience know.

Rob's Response:

. I started at age 5....ish on the ol pots and pans. Got my first kit at 7. I jammed to records (yes records!) Didn't have much for instruction so I taught myself watching other drummers and listening to all the music in the house. My family was very much fans of music and musicians themselves so there was music all the time. I was in school band and did that for 4 years. I wanted to expand my music education after i graduated. I went to Capilano University (college back then) for a two year course in commercial music and jazz..... That upped my playing ten fold. It solidified a practice discipline and opened the doors to expand my chops i had never been exposed to. We didn't have internet so no youtube teachers remember lol. I have taught lessons in the past but have never settled into doing it as a career/job

7) Three Part Question

a) Your manager sent me a link to a cover song called Synchronicity II that was recorded by your new band called Touch The Sun are there any other plans for other releases soon?



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O463YjOkH68>



Rob's Response:

Touch The Sun plan on releasing its debut album early 2018. Its been a long few years and we feel the new year is time. And by the time this interview goes out we will have released our latest cover of The Dream Police by Cheap Trick.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=izWbDLMcctc>

b) In the future I am planning on interviewing bands as a whole instead of one particular member as I do text interviews so I would like to know about the other members of the band Touch The Sun and the particular instruments that each one plays.

Rob's Response

Alex Roque - Guitars and Vocals : He played in a band out of Vancouver called Gladys Patches. We started demos for Touch The Sun when He and I played in Nikki Hurst. A while ago lol.

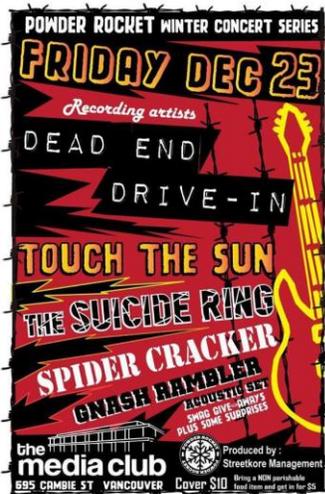
Russ Bergquist - Bass : Russ played in Annihilator and Dusk Machine. He came on board right at bass time during the recording process. He and i Played in the last version of my old band Jar together and in The Thick of it with Alex and myself. So we've kind a been a project for many years lol.



Alex Roque



Russ Bergquist



c) Are there any plans for Touch The Sun in regards to upcoming events such as venues, television, magazine articles and radio interviews?

Rob's Response:

We have a few shows booked to start off the new year here in Vancouver to build around our album release. Were working on press as we speak. Plans are to play wherever we can man.



8) Two Part Question

a) When it comes to thinking back about your career what was the venue that you are most fond of and the reason why?

Rob's Response

Thats hard because I enjoy any venue that sounds good and has that killer crowd energy . Touch The Sun recently did the and that was a pretty memorable venue!!! Your on a huge ship with 60 awesome metal bands and 3000 plus fans, in the middle of the Caribbean for 4 days.....pretty cool place to play lol!!

b) What venue can you think of that you would love to play that you have not yet in your musical career?

Rob's Response:

I think it would be cool to play on an Orpheum or Red Rocks stage i like the theatre vibe.

9) Two Part Question

a) When your manager requested me to do this particular interview with you, which was before New Years it brings up the fact that 2017 is near its end at the time that I am wriing this interview what was your personal highlight of the year that is coming to a close?





Rob's Response:

It would have to be the 70000 tons of metal festival. Rest of 2017 was spent in rehearsal and finishing our record.

b) What are your dreams and hopes for success in 2018?

Rob's Response:

Health and health lol. And for Touch The Sun music to have a chance at getting in some ears.

10) One of my favorite questions is what is the greatest challenge as a musician you have ever faced?

Rob's Response

Touring for however long we would in the late 90's into 2000 and being on a limited diet. I was fighting off the pleasures of crohns disease and successfully beat it into remission while beating drums every night! Oh driving 20 plus hours in blizzard conditions is a great time as well. Recording the Flybanger

record with Matt Wallace for Columbia records was a tough 4 months and anytime we got.



11) It has been a great pleasure for me to interview you on behalf of John Jeff Brandyberry of Diminished Pitch Entertainment and if there is something else that you would like to add please feel free and you can also supply links,etc for our reading audience.

Rob's Response:

Just a big thanks for letting me blab a little about Drums, yours truly and Touch The Sun.....cheers!!

www.facebook.com/touchthesunmusic

www.twitter.com/touchthesunbc

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCO51jXiO3Et9c1o6aoEh-BA>

<https://www.facebook.com/JARCANADA/?ref=bookmarks>